

CableFAX Daily™

Monday — June 24, 2013

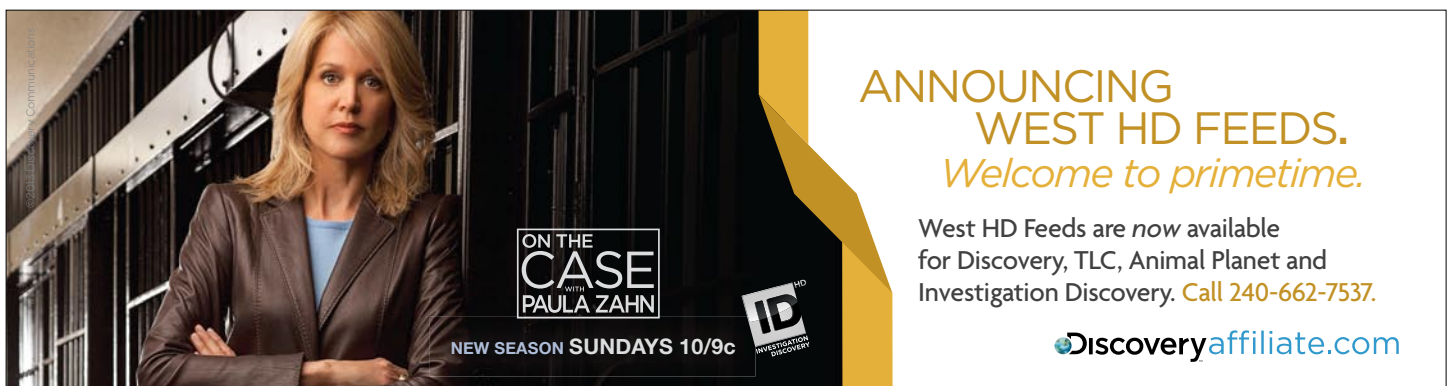
What the Industry Reads First

Volume 24 / No. 121

Boxes at Retail: CE Makers Pushing FCC to Lift Analog Tuner Rules

For more than a decade, the **FCC** has said it wants to see more set-tops offered at retail. CE makers think they have the answer. Take **Samsung**, which wants to sell cable-compatible, Internet-enabled set-top boxes at retail—and quickly. “If Samsung cannot provide Smart Media Players to retailers by the end of the summer, it risks losing the opportunity to obtain any shelf space in 2013, including during the all-important holiday season,” the company told the FCC last month. The problem is that its “Smart Media Player” wouldn’t have an analog tuner and thus wouldn’t meet the FCC’s cable-ready CE equipment requirements. The FCC rules are meant to ensure that boxes can tune cable channels transmitted in analog, but Samsung’s box is designed for use only with digital cable, which it argues is most folks these days. It’s seeking an expedited waiver of the rules. On Fri, the FCC Media Bureau opened the docket, asking for public comment (initial comments are due July 11). The box, which uses a CableCARD and proprietary EPG, can access certain pre-loaded apps and OTT video. **TiVo** filed a similar petition in Feb, and no comments were filed in response. But the Commission has yet to act (the comment period wrapped in Apr). The FCC did previously waive the analog tuner requirement for the TiVo Premiere Elite, which Samsung points to in its request. “As TiVo’s data filed in support of its own waiver request demonstrates, consumers will not be confused or adversely impacted by the device’s lack of an analog tuner, and Samsung voluntarily commits to engage in consumer education efforts to ensure that this is the case,” Samsung said in its petition. One way to speed things along, Samsung suggested, would be to grant TiVo’s pending waiver request and expand it to include all devices in the same class, like the Smart Media box. One argument is that such a blanket waiver could really help open up the retail set-top market, as the addition of an analog tuner significantly jacks up the cost of the box (not to mention hurts its energy consumption, an important topic these days at the **Dept of Energy**). Of course, the big question: can retail boxes keep consumers happy as cable advances its own offerings? (see **Comcast’s** upcoming X2).

Bankruptcy: Program distribution and development company **CABLEready** filed for Chapter 11 Fri, saying it explored every possible alternative, including searching for a buyer. The firm was the 1st of its kind to specialize in cable, and it has represented a wide range of series including “Inside the Actors Studio” and “Forensic Files.” “Due to industry consolidation, mergers and acquisitions of production companies, larger competitors paying higher and higher advances for programming or networks retaining all rights, and the uncertain global economy squeezing independent companies like ours, CABLEready was left with no choice but to seek protection,” said pres/CEO **Gary Lico**. He added that through the Chapter 11 process CABLEready is confident it can regain financial health. According to its voluntary petition, CABLEready has an estimated



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50-99 creditors, including **NBCU/Bravo, WE tv** and **truTV**. It listed assets at nearly \$3.2mln and liabilities at almost \$4.5mln.

Googlism: Lee's Summit, MO, is the 9th Kansas City-area city that will become a **Google** "Fiberhood." The city council recently approved the company's fiber plan.

Outdoor Reshuffling: Following the recent acquisition of **Outdoor Channel** by **Kroenke Sports & Ent**, the net appointed **Jim Liberatore** as pres/CEO, succeeding **Tom Hornish**, who will remain with the company through the transition. Liberatore was most recently pres of 24/7 sports net **SportsTime Ohio**. It's been "a terrific run" at the network, Hornish said in a statement. "As I make plans for the next stage of my career, I would like to thank everyone at the company, as well as the team at KSE, for their strong support. I look forward to working with Jim in making this a very smooth and productive transition." Kroenke pres/CEO **Jim Martin** praised Hornish for his 9 years at the net. "Tom has played a pivotal role in guiding Outdoor Channel's growth, securing top-rated content and strengthening the network's relationships across the industry. A true outdoor enthusiast with a passion for hunting and fishing, we look forward to continuing to work with Tom during the transitional period and wish him all the best in his future endeavors," he said.

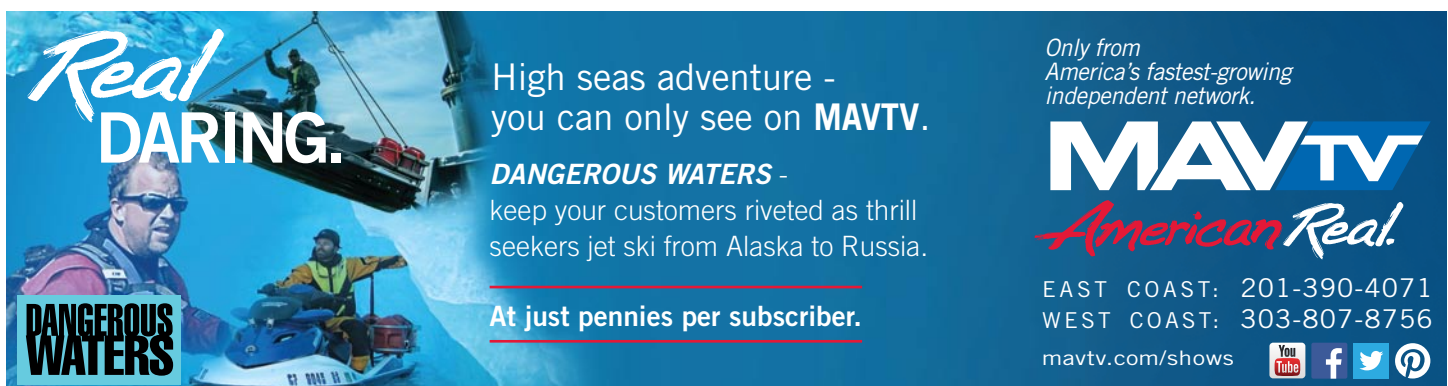
Carriage: **P Diddy's Revolt TV**, slated to launch later this year, inked a carriage pact with **Time Warner Cable**. Carriage is for a portion, but not all, TWC systems. Revolt is 1 of 4 nets that **Comcast** announced in Feb '12 it would launch as part of an **NBCU** merger condition tied to the launch of minority owned-and-operated networks.

Canned: **Food Network** has finished monitoring the situation and will drop chef **Paula Deen** at the end of the month when her contract expires. The net originally took a wait-and-see approach following revelations unearthed this week in a deposition for a discrimination lawsuit. In the deposition, Deen admitted to having used racial slurs and talked about wanting to have a Southern plantation wedding with black servers.

Research: A report, based on a recent survey of 2 focus groups (all young, relatively low-income, single New Yorkers) by **Bernstein Research**, suggests password sharing was common among cord-cutters. The report cited "very high incidence" of sharing **HBO** and **Netflix** accounts and "very low incidence" of traditional pirating. In addition, there was "a strong willingness to pay more for Netflix" though there was little interest in the theoretical option of paying \$20 for a digital cable package. According to Bernstein analysts, "cord-cutters do not appreciate the value proposition of pay-TV." The good news for programmers: the lifespan of a cord-cutter isn't indefinite as there was strong acknowledgement that a future, traditional family setting would make pay-TV much more desirable.

Programming: **Whoopi Goldberg** will headline and produce **Lifetime** original movie "A Day Late and a Dollar Short." The film, based on **Terry McMillan's** book, is expected to air next year. -- **Lifetime's** reality-competition series "Project Runway" returns on July 18 for a 12th season. -- **MSG Networks** will showcase the best of '12-'13 Knicks season starting Sun.

People: **Turner** upped **Angela Santone** to svp/chief HR officer. She is an exec mentor for the Turner Women mentoring program and has been a peer-to-peer mentor for **WICT's** Southeast chapter.



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CableFAX Week in Review

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS				
DIRECTV:	DTV	61.73	(0.44%)	23.07%
DISH:	DISH	40.41	2.05%	11.02%
DISNEY:	DIS	62.73	(1.68%)	25.99%
GE:	GE	23.36	(0.68%)	11.29%
NEWS CORP:	NWS	31.66	0.80%	20.66%
MSOS				
CABLEVISION:	CVC	14.96	(1.06%)	0.13%
CHARTER:	CHTR	119.68	2.63%	56.98%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	39.77	0.08%	6.45%
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	38.11	(0.6%)	6.10%
GCI:	GNCMA	7.88	(6.86%)	(17.83%)
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	70.11	(4.79%)	11.36%
LIBERTY INT:	LINTA	22.10	(1.47%)	12.30%
SHAW COMM:	SJR	21.81	(2.24%)	(5.09%)
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	101.83	(2.02%)	4.77%
WASH POST:	WPO	478.82	(1.15%)	31.11%

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
PROGRAMMING				
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	63.44	(0.66%)	28.16%
CBS:	CBS	46.89	(1.74%)	23.23%
CROWN:	CRWN	2.05	1.99%	10.81%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	75.42	(1.26%)	18.81%
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	TV	22.49	(6.53%)	(15.39%)
HSN:	HSNI	52.61	(6.19%)	(4.48%)
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	47.32	(3.84%)	0.17%
LIONSGATE:	LGF	28.30	2.39%	72.56%
SCRIPPS INT:	SNI	66.04	(0.77%)	14.02%
STARZ:	STRZA	21.90	(1.84%)	0.00%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	56.81	(1.15%)	18.77%
VALUEVISION:	VVTV	5.12	(0.39%)	184.44%
VIACOM:	VIA	66.94	(0.58%)	23.35%
WWE:	WWE	9.84	0.10%	24.71%

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
TECHNOLOGY				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.23	(1.76%)	12.06%
ALCATEL LUCENT:	ALU	1.94	3.19%	39.57%
AMDOCS:	DOX	36.15	1.49%	6.35%
AMPHENOL:	APH	76.39	0.25%	18.07%
AOL:	AOL	34.82	(3.39%)	17.60%
APPLE:	AAPL	413.50	(3.85%)	(22.3%)
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	14.64	2.23%	(2.01%)
AVID TECH:	AVID	6.30	1.45%	(16.89%)
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	1.07	12.63%	(6.96%)
BROADCOM:	BRCM	33.24	(6.06%)	0.11%
CISCO:	CSCO	24.48	1.62%	24.59%
CLEARWIRE:	CLWR	5.08	9.72%	75.78%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	7.67	(3.64%)	33.62%
CONVERGYS:	CVG	17.74	(2.04%)	8.10%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	21.57	0.84%	18.65%
ECHOSTAR:	SATS	38.62	(2.33%)	12.86%
GOOGLE:	GOOG	880.93	0.67%	24.53%
HARMONIC:	HLIT	6.22	(2.05%)	22.68%
INTEL:	INTC	24.20	(2.91%)	17.34%
JDSU:	JDSU	14.04	(0.92%)	4.00%
LEVEL 3:	LVT	20.65	(3.46%)	(10.64%)
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	33.27	(3.3%)	24.54%

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
RENTRAK:	RENT	20.91	1.70%	7.29%
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	11.57	7.53%	19.65%
SONY:	SNE	20.38	2.52%	81.96%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	6.97	(3.73%)	22.93%
TIVO:	TIVO	11.03	(3.16%)	(10.4%)
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	26.68	(1.04%)	37.88%
VONAGE:	VG	2.79	1.82%	17.72%
YAHOO:	YHOO	25.19	(4.15%)	26.58%

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
TELCOS				
AT&T:	T	34.47	(4.01%)	2.25%
VERIZON:	VZ	49.52	(3.04%)	14.44%

Company	Ticker	6/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
MARKET INDICES				
DOW:	DJI	14799.40	(1.8%)	12.94%
NASDAQ:	IXIC	3357.25	(1.45%)	13.38%
S&P 500:	GSPC	1592.43	(2.11%)	11.66%

WINNERS & LOSERS

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. BLNDER TONGUE:	1.07	12.63%
2. CLEARWIRE:	5.08	9.72%
3. SEACHANGE:	11.57	7.53%
4. ALCATEL LUCENT:	1.94	3.19%
5. CHARTER:	119.68	2.63%

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. GCI:	7.88	(6.86%)
2. GRUPO TELEVISIA:	22.49	(6.53%)
3. HSN:	52.61	(6.19%)
4. BROADCOM:	33.24	(6.06%)
5. LIBERTY GLOBAL:	70.11	(4.79%)

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Calendar 2013

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JULY

CABLEFAX: THE MAGAZINE – TOP OPS ISSUE

Ad Deadline: July 3

SEPTEMBER

CABLEFAX TV INNOVATION SUMMIT

September 24 | Yale Club, NYC

CABLEFAX PROGRAM & TOP OPS AWARDS BREAKFAST

September 25 | Yale Club, NYC

CABLEFAX: THE MAGAZINE – MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITIES ISSUE

Ad Deadline: September 12

OCTOBER

CABLEFAX: THE MAGAZINE – MOST POWERFUL WOMEN ISSUE

Ad Deadline: October 24

CABLEFAX & NAMIC DIVERSITY BREAKFAST

October 9 | Hilton New York

NOVEMBER

CABLEFAX MOST POWERFUL WOMEN BREAKFAST

November 21 | Grand Hyatt, NYC

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